

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 INR-07 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /052 W

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2012

INFO SECDEF ISA DSAA WASHDC

USCINCEUR ECJ4/7 VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 2870

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS MO

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN AIR FORCE TRAINING NEEDS

1. ROYAL MOROCCAN AIR FORCE (RMAF) OFFICERS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN PRESSING EMBASSY STAFF AND VISITORS FROM WASHINGTON VERY HARD FOR ADDITIONAL TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES. OUR REVIEW OF THEIR TRAINING NEEDS SHOWS A SIZABLE TRAINING SHORTFALL FROM WHAT IS BEING PROVIDED UNDER INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING (IMET) FUNDING AND IN-COUNTRY.

2. THE TRAINING SHORTFALL DEVELOPED AFTER THE 1972 COUP ATTEMPT WHEN F-5 OPERATIONS AND TRAINING WERE VIRTUALLY SUSPENDED UNTIL LAST YEAR. THE RAMF HAS SINCE ATTEMPTED TO REATTAIN AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF OPERATIONAL READINESS BUT NO LONGER POSSESSES THE NECESSARY DEPTH OF EXPERIENCE WITHIN THE F-5 SQUADRON. THE F-5 ADVANCED PILOT TRAINING LISTED BELOW IS VITALLY NEEDED TO RE-ESTABLISH A CADRE OF WELL QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR PILOT PERSONNEL. WITH THIS CADRE THE F-5 SQUADRON SHOULD BE ABLE TO ATTAIN ITS GOAL OF TOTAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN F-5 TRAINING.

3. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE LESLIE JANKA DISCUSSED THE TRAINING PROBLEMS WITH COLONEL KABBAJ, CHIEF OF THE MOROCCAN AIR FORCE, MAY 6. KABBAJ ADMITTED THAT HE CURRENTLY HAS ENOUGH F-5
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PILOTS BUT WILL NEED TO TRANSITION SOME OF THEM INTO THE MIRAGE F-1C WHEN DELIVERIES START IN JANUARY 1978. TRAINING FOR THE MIRAGE PILOTS IS SCHEDULE TO START IN FRANCE DURING SEPTEMBER 1977. SINCE MANY OF THE MORE EXPERIENCED PILOTS WILL BE NEEDED FOR THE MIRAGE, KABBAJ WANTS TO REBUILD HIS INSTRUCTOR CADRE FOR THE F-5 SQUADRON. KABBAJ ALSO ADMITTED THAT HIS F-5 MAINTENANCE CAPABILITY WAS VERY LOW AND EXPRESSED THE NEED FOR AN MTT.

WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT USAF DID NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT ALL OF THE COUNTRIES NEEDING F-5 MAINTENANCE ASSISTANCE, KABBAJ REPLIED THAT NOT ALL COUNTRIES ARE CARRYING THE BURDEN FOR THE FREE WORLD THAT MOROCCO IS.

4. BEARING IN MIND UNDER SECRETARY HABIB'S APRIL 14 MEETING WITH KING HASSAN AND AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. JANKA, I RECOMMEND SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO USING ANY AVAILABLE FALLOT IMET MONEY FROM SOUTH AMERICA FOR REALLOCATION TO MOROCCO.

5. THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM WOULD FULFILL THE MORE IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF THE RMAF:

PRIORITY 1 - INSTRUCTOR PILOTS

1 - F-5E ADVANCED TNG AIR SUPERIORITY (F-5 QUAL)	\$ 69,110
1 - F-5E ADVANCED TNG GROUND ATTACK (F-5 QUAL)	81,080

\$150,190

PRIORITY 2 - SQUADRON PILOTS

3 - F-5E ADVANCED TN AIR SUPERIORITY (UPT GRAD)	\$282,410
3 - F-5E ADVANCED TNG GROUND ATTACK (UPT GRAD)	389,040

\$671,550

PRIORITY 3 - MAINTENANCE

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3 - AVIONICS INSTRUMENT (F-5)	\$ 12,450
3 - AUTOMATIC FLIGHT CONTROL SYSTEMS (F-5)	12,120

\$ 24,570

TOTAL \$846,310

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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